

LOAD BEARING MEMBER ARRANGEMENT AND METHOD

In the design of load bearing members for use in work machines, it is oftentimes beneficial to minimize the weight of such structures which, in turn, may allow for increased payloads and decreased cycle times of the work machine. A load bearing arrangement for use with a work machine of the type having a platform is provided. The load bearing arrangement comprises a plurality of pieces connectable to form a member structured and arranged for pivotable attachment to the platform. A weldment connects at least two of the pieces where at least one weldment is simulated for effects of heat on at least one of the pieces subject to the weldment.